

EMS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

January 2014

GENERAL INFORMATION

UPCOMING EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Next Meeting: *TENTATIVE*: April 9-11, 2014
Doubletree by Hilton Tampa Airport-Westshore
4500 West Cypress Street
Tampa, FL 33607
813.879.4800

Contract negotiations are underway at this time. Information will be distributed as soon as available.

NEW EMPLOYEES

The EMS program is pleased to announce the promotion of Rickey Stone as section administrator of the Education, Licensure & Compliance Section. Mr. Stone has been with the department for 10 years and brings a tremendous amount of leadership and knowledge to the unit.

Also joining the EMS program is Luke Remilliard. Mr. Remilliard will be working within the 911 Public Safety Telecommunications (PST) program. He will be assisting with various projects and assignments within the unit.

EMS EDUCATION, LICENSURE & COMPLIANCE SECTION

TRAINING

There are 71 schools offering EMT and paramedic training programs. There are currently 45 Continuing Education Providers offering 1,350 continuing education courses.

2013 certification examination statistics are:

- 3,249 EMT first time test takers with a 78% pass rate.
- 1,637 Paramedic first time test takers with an 89% pass rate.

Florida currently has a total of 34,425 certified EMTs and 29,002 certified paramedics.

INSPECTIONS

97 EMS providers were inspected in 2013. 50 of those inspections were announced while 37 were unannounced and 11 were new provider or initial inspections.

- We are continuing to see deficiencies in pediatric supplies and equipment such as pediatric electrodes, BP cuffs, meconium aspirators and oxygen masks.
- Personnel files continue to have expired ACLS and CPR cards, as well as EVOC certificates without the required documented hours. In addition, there is a lack of documentation confirming the medical director participates in direct contact time with EMS field level providers for a minimum of ten hours per year.

LICENSURE

There are 276 EMS providers currently licensed in the state with 4,483 permitted vehicles. Permitted vehicles are broken down into four categories as follows:

- ALS non-transport ~ 1,552
- ALS transport ~ 2,368
- Air ambulances ~ 124
- BLS transport ~ 439

The Department is consistently receiving applications that are missing documents and/or are incomplete. Please review your application thoroughly for all required information before submitting.

The following information refers to timely service renewal applications submitted to this department.

Florida Statute 120.52(10)

(10) License means a franchise, permit, certification, registration, charter, or similar form of authorization required by law, but it does not include a license required primarily for revenue purposes when issuance of the license is merely a ministerial act.

Florida Statute 401.26(5)(a)

(5) In order to renew a vehicle or aircraft permit issued pursuant to this part, the applicant must:

Submit a renewal application. Such application must be received by the department not more than 90 days or less than 30 days prior to the expiration of the permit.

Florida Statute 401.251(5)(a)

(5) In order to renew a license for air ambulance service, the applicant must:

(a) Submit a renewal application to the department not more than 90 days nor less than 60 days before the license expires.

Therefore a ground license application must be received in the EMS Program no less than 30 days prior to expiration. An air ambulance license application must be received no less than 60 days prior to expiration. If these dates are not adhered to, your service will be subject to administrative action.

INVESTIGATIONS & PROSECUTION

Investigation

EMS Program Investigation Section operates in conjunction with Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) to investigate complaints against EMTs and Paramedics. BEMO continues to investigate complaints against the EMS Provider, Training School or 911 PST.

Prosecution

Upon completion of the investigative process, all complaint files against **Florida EMTs and Paramedics** are prosecuted by Julia Forrester of MQA Prosecution Service Unit, and can be mailed to:

Florida Department of Health
Medical Quality Assurance, Consumer Services Unit
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin C-75
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Upon completion of the investigative process, all complaint files against **Florida EMS providers, training schools and 911 PSTs** are prosecuted by Caryl Kilinski of the Office of General Counsel and can be mailed to:

Florida Department of Health
BEMO, EMS Program, Investigation Section
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A22
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1722

For disciplinary information, please submit a Public Record Request to:

Florida Department of Health c/o Public Records Coordinator

Office of the General Counsel
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-02
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1702
850.245.4005 - phone
850.410.1448 - FAX

Or visit <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/publicRecord.html> to submit online.

Complaints Received during October - December 2013

- 26 Emergency Medical Technician & Paramedic
- 12 EMS Provider ALS - EMS Training Schools
- 10 911 PST
- 2 EMS felony referrals

Disciplinary Actions taken for October - December 2013

- 24 Administrative Complaints
- 68 Closures
- 4 Voluntary Surrender of certificates

FREE PEDIATRIC EDUCATION PROGRAM AND/OR RESOURCES

Florida EMSC is offering FREE Pediatric/Neonatal continuing education courses and resources within the state this grant year. If you are interested in having a pediatric/neonatal education course offered at your agency or are in need of pediatric educational resources, please contact Melissa Keahey, EMSC Program Manager. The following CE courses/programs are available to eligible agencies:

Pediatric Transport Safety

Focuses on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's best practice recommendations to ensure pediatric patients are safely transported in emergency ground ambulances. Agencies who receive this training from FLEMSC will also receive two (2) Pedi-Mate innovative restraint systems for pediatric transportation.

Friday Night Lights Out - Pediatric Mild Traumatic Brain Injury

Pediatric head injuries are under recognized and under treated particularly in terms of long term effects and return to play recommendations. EMS providers need to be able to identify concerning features for long term damage and make the appropriate recommendation for returning to play for children with acute head injuries.

Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals

PEPP represents a complete source of prehospital medical information for the emergency care of infants and children. Developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, PEPP is an exciting curriculum designed to teach prehospital professionals how to better assess and manage ill or injured children.

Pediatric Advanced Life Support

PALS is a classroom, video-based, Instructor-led course that uses a series of simulated pediatric emergencies to reinforce the important concepts of a systematic approach to pediatric assessment, basic life support, PALS treatment algorithms, effective resuscitation and team dynamics. The goal of the PALS Course is to improve the quality of care provided to seriously ill or injured children, resulting in improved outcomes.

S.T.A.B.L.E.

S.T.A.B.L.E. is the most widely distributed and implemented neonatal education program to focus exclusively on the post-resuscitation/pre-transport stabilization care of sick infants. Based on a mnemonic to optimize learning, retention and recall of information, S.T.A.B.L.E. stands for the six assessment and care modules in the program: Sugar, Temperature, Airway, Blood pressure, Lab work, and Emotional support. A seventh module, Quality Improvement stresses the professional responsibility of improving and evaluating care provided to sick infants.

Neonatal Resuscitation Program

NRP is an educational program jointly sponsored with the American Heart Association (AHA). The course has been designed to teach an evidence-based approach to resuscitation of the newborn to hospital staff who care for newborns at the time of delivery, including physicians, nurses and respiratory therapists.

Pediatric/Neonatal Review

This course can be customized to meet the specific needs of your agency.

Costs associated with the above mentioned CE courses will be covered in full by the Florida EMSC partnership grant when possible. To find out if your agency is eligible to receive the equipment and training, contact the EMSC office.

Additionally, EMSC may be able to support an education program at your agency that you are already planning, provide educational materials and other pediatric resources. Contact the EMSC office directly for more information or with specific requests.

EMSC Contact Information
Florida Department of Health
Bureau of Emergency Medical Oversight
Emergency Medical Services for Children
Melissa Keahey, Program and Planning Manager
4042 Bald Cypress Way, Room 240Q (Physical)
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A22 (Mailing)
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1722
850.245.4440, ext. 2686
850.488.9408 (fax)
melissa.keahey@flhealth.gov

EMSC FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP GRANT

The EMSC program has completed and submitted the EMSC State Partnership program Non-Competing Continuation Progress Report in lieu of a Non-Competing Continuation Grant Proposal as required by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The new grant year will begin in March 2013 (pending receipt of a notice of grant award) and ends on February 28, 2015. The primary goals of the grant are:

- Improve and expand the degree to which Florida EMS has ensured the operational capacity to provide prehospital pediatric emergency care, and
- Improve the capacity of Florida to ensure that essential resources and protocols are available in facilities where children receive care, and
- Improve and expand the degree to which Florida has established permanence of EMS in the Florida EMS System, and
- Improve and expand Florida's capacity to reduce and ameliorate pediatric emergencies.

MATCHING GRANTS (401.113(2) (b), FLORIDA STATUTES

All public and private Florida EMS organizations are eligible for matching grant funds. We are now accepting new matching grant applications through the deadline of February 28. You may obtain specific information about this opportunity at the state EMS grant website. The internet address follows, but scroll down at the site to the matching grant section. <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/demo/ems/grants/grants.html>

We expect to make final award decisions in May.

COUNTY GRANTS (401.113(2) (a), FLORIDA STATUTES

Solely the 67 county governments are eligible to receive these grants. The amounts for each county are predetermined and there is no competitive aspect. We cite the amount for each county in a list you can access at the preceding website address.

We have received 59 applications to-date, which collectively have received or are in the process to receive \$2.7 million.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

New Grants. As described above, we continue to manage the process for soliciting new grant requests, evaluating them, and obtaining payment when approved.

Active Grant Projects. We have 120 grant projects currently open from previous award cycles. Collectively they request, receive, and require a daily stream of services, information and communications.

Improvements. We continually review procedures and documents, and each grant cycle implement improvements within the applicable constraints.

Information. We gladly provide information upon request about the grant program for administrative purposes and in response to requests from individuals and organizations.

Addendum

HEALTH INFORMATION & POLICY ANALYSIS PROGRAM

EMSTARS

The Health Information and Policy Analysis Program continues to make great strides with 157 agencies reporting to the EMS Tracking and Reporting System (EMSTARS), bringing the state repository to over 9.5 million incidents reported. The number of agencies moving to EMSTARS reporting continues to rise each month.

The EMS Advisory Council (EMSAC) Data Committee continues to play the major advocacy role contributing to the increase in agency data submissions. The Data Committee is committed to the advocacy, education and awareness of the benefits that EMSTARS brings to the quality of EMS service delivery in Florida. The EMSAC Data Committee will be meeting in January in conjunction with the EMSAC meetings in Daytona.

Implementation of the EMSTARS version 3 is planned for 2014. The Health Information and Policy Analysis Program is working with the software vendor, Intermedix, in the implementation of the state level repository for EMSTARS version 3. Currently the new system is in a beta test. It is expected to begin the transition of submitting agencies to the new system in the first quarter to 2014. These initial transitions will be utilizing the current EMSTARS 1.4. Data Dictionary and transitions to V3 Data Dictionary will occur as agencies are prepared to submit the new standards.

The Health Information and Policy Analysis Program continues to be available for providers to facilitate training and/or implementation assistance as needed. If your agency is interested in receiving assistance with your EMSTARS submissions or transitioning from aggregate data reporting to EMSTARS reporting at this time or in the near future, please contact Brenda Clotfelter at Brenda.Clotfelter@doh.state.fl.us.

The NEMSIS National Reporting System based upon the National EMS Database can be found on the NEMSIS web site (www.nemsis.org) under the Reporting Tools tab (click on “Reports”, then “National Reports” and then “Access Reports”). Follow the directions to access the reports. You will notice Florida’s data is incorporated in the national aggregated reports.

NEMSIS VERSION 3 UPDATE

The program staff continues to work in concert with our federal partners, National EMS Information System (NEMSIS), EMS Advisory Council Data Committee, and the EMS Community to respond to the changes anticipated with NEMSIS version 3. The program staff are working with a third party vendor, Intermedix, to ensure that an appropriate state level implementation approach is utilized and adequately planned to minimize impact to local EMS provider agencies.

The Data Committee and the Health Information and Policy Analysis Program will be working with Florida agencies over the next few years as the state transitions to the new standards. The Data Committee will be working with the agency staff to craft a training curriculum for the transition.

The Florida EMS dataset for version 3 represents a new version of the Florida EMS dataset and is not a replacement of the current Florida EMS Data Dictionary version 1.4.1 (NEMSIS version 2.2.1 compliant). Although NEMSIS has released NEMSIS version 3, the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (TAC) has indicated that they will continue to accept NEMSIS version 2.2.1 data from states until December 2014 to allow software vendors, states and agencies to implement NEMSIS version 3.

At this time and until further notification, the State will only accept files that are compliant with the current Florida EMS Data Dictionary version 1.4.1 (NEMSIS version 2.2.1 compliant) for agencies reporting to EMSTARS. EMS agencies who are currently submitting to EMSTARS should not transition to NEMSIS version 3 software prior to notification from the program staff on the transition/implementation plan. However, EMS agencies participating or that will be participating in EMSTARS should begin discussions with their vendor on their vendor’s implementation approach and timeline for transition to version 3.

EMS agencies that are procuring new ePCR (electronic patient care reporting) software should not finalize their negotiations without consultation with the EMSTARS team and are advised not to procure software that will not allow for Florida EMSTARS version 1.4.1 support until Florida is ready to begin its transition to accept NEMSIS version 3.

If your agency has questions regarding version 3, please contact Brenda Clotfelter at brend.clotfelter@flhealth.gov.

INJURY PREVENTION

Contact Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan, Director, Injury Prevention Program (IPP) at 850.245.4440, ext. 2776 for further information.

2013 INJURY PREVENTION AWARD

The Injury Prevention Program, in conjunction with the Florida Injury Prevention Advisory Council (FIPAC), annually recognizes an individual who demonstrates commitment to injury prevention. The award began in 2006 and the award presentation took place at the FIPAC annual fall meeting.

Employed by the Florida Department of Health in Orange County, Charity N. Jones has been a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician through Safe Kids Worldwide and the Children's Safety Village since 2010. Between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013, Ms. Jones accomplished the following:

Through 14 baby "Shower Powers," she educated the pregnant women and the immediate family and friends who might be potential caregivers for infants on car seat safety and other health topics, reaching a total of 245 persons.

She provided health education presentations at various community and government agencies to educate the public as well as agency staff on the dangers of incorrectly installed car seats, reaching 273 community individuals and agency staff.

She also participated in 14 car seat safety checkpoints to check the car safety seats in the participants' vehicle while educating them on car seat safety and installation, installing 175 car safety seats and reaching 250 individuals.

2013 OLDER ADULT FALLS PREVENTION AWARD

The IPP, in conjunction with FIPAC Goal Team 3, annually recognizes an individual, or individuals, who demonstrate commitment to older adult falls prevention. The award presentation will take place at the FIPAC annual spring meeting.

Patricia A. Quigley, PhD, MPH, ARNP, CRRN, FAAN, FAANP, serves as the Associate Chief of Nursing/Research at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital and the Associate Director of the Patient Safety Center of Inquiry in Tampa, FL. She teaches at Rush University College of Nursing, Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing and the University of South Florida, College of Nursing.

Dr. Quigley has demonstrated her commitment to older adult falls prevention through her extensive research. She has participated in 34 studies for research funding as either the principal investigator or the co-principal investigator, and her work has resulted in nine center grants totaling \$12,844,000. Since 2011, she has written 53 peer-reviewed manuscripts and 43 other manuscripts. In addition, she has facilitated over 200 local, national, and international presentations and has served in a leadership role on nine different professional organizations.

MINI-GRANTS FOR CHILDHOOD DROWNING, DISTRACTED DRIVING, AND OLDER ADULT FALLS PREVENTION

The IPP announced the 2013-2014 awards for the Child Drowning, Distracted Driving and Older Adult Falls Prevention mini-grants funded between \$4,797.42 to \$5,000.00 for a total of \$99,779.31. Seven (7) mini-grants were awarded for child drowning prevention for a total of \$34,999.89, seven (7) mini-grants were awarded for distracted driving for a total of \$34,779.42 and six (6) mini-grants were awarded for older adult falls prevention for a total of \$ 30,000. The mini-grants are assisting in the purchase of goods and/or delivery of services for injury prevention projects focusing on child drowning prevention and distracted driving prevention, while the older adult falls prevention focus is on intervention measures. The mini-grants will end by June 30, 2014.

Award recipients include county health departments, hospitals, YMCAs, police departments, city governments and the Area Agencies on Aging. The Child Drowning Prevention project goals are to provide awareness, education, training and swim lessons to reduce the number of child drownings in Florida.

The Distracted Driving Prevention project goals are to provide awareness, education and training to reduce injury and death from vehicle crashes resulting from distracted driving in Florida. Finally, the Older Adult Falls Prevention project goal is to provide the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended evidence-based or best practice falls intervention classes that improve mobility to reduce the number of falls among older adults in Florida.

These grants were made possible through the CDC Core Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) Grant. This is the second year IPP has offered a mini-grant opportunity to fund local agencies and health departments.

FLORIDA INJURY PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL (FIPAC) MEETING

The next FIPAC meeting is scheduled for March 12 and 13, 2014, at the Wyndham Tampa Westshore in Tampa, Florida. The FIPAC meeting will be on the afternoon of March 12 and the morning of March 13. The FIPAC meeting will focus on the 2014 implementation activities of the 2014–2018 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan.

At the November 2013 FIPAC meeting, members completed implementation activities for 2009-2013 plan and filled out the action plans to accomplish the vision, mission and goals for the 2014-2018 strategic plan.

2014-2018 FLORIDA INJURY PREVENTION STRATEGIC PLAN

Vision: Florida: An injury-free state.

Mission: To reduce injury in Florida through leadership, education and policy.

- Goal 1: Establish a sustainable infrastructure that provides leadership, funding, data, communication, policy, and evaluation for injury prevention.
- Goal 2: Support data driven injury prevention, collaboration and statewide educational and awareness opportunities.
- Goal 3: Establish a collaborative effort to provide statewide direction and focus for fall-related injury prevention for Florida's older adults.
- Goal 4: Establish a collaborative effort to provide statewide direction and focus for early childhood water safety and drowning prevention in Florida.

Goal 5: Establish a collaborative effort to support statewide direction and focus to prevent motor vehicle crash-related injuries from distracted driving.

Plans are to have a hard copy of the complete plan document by June 2014.

2009–2013 FLORIDA INJURY PREVENTION STRATEGIC PLAN

Staff is completing implementation activities on the 2009–2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan. The plan is available on the IPP website at www.floridahealth.gov/provider-and-partner-resources/advisory-councils-stakeholder-groups/injury-advisory-council/fipac-publications.html. A final status implementation report for the 2009-2013 Florida Injury Prevention Strategic Plan will be available by June 2014.

POLICY SUBCOMMITTEES

In accordance with the requirements of the 2011–2016 CDC Core Violence and Injury Prevention Program (Core VIPP) grant, a Policy Subcommittee within FIPAC has been formed. The Policy Subcommittee will work to create an overarching policy agenda for FIPAC, as well as to focus on two specific injury mechanisms, childhood drowning and older adult falls prevention.

These policy focus areas, older adult falls prevention and distracted driving, were selected by FIPAC and are also data-driven.

- The **Older Adult Falls Prevention Policy Subcommittee** is currently implementing strategies to encourage policies that promote the use of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended evidence-based interventions as well as the Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths, and Injuries (STEADI) toolkit for falls risk assessment. The subcommittee is currently marketing this new toolkit and encouraging the implementation of its resources. For more information contact Reikan Lin at Reikan.Lin@flhealth.gov or 850.245.4440, ext. 2736.
- The **Distracted Driving Policy Subcommittee will become Goal Team 5 (GT5) under the 2014-2018 Injury Prevention Program Strategic Plan.** The Distracted Driving Toolkits have been distributed to all the Safe Kids Florida chapters and coalitions. Regularly scheduled conference calls for the subcommittee members occur on the second Tuesday of each month at 2 PM. The next face-to-face meeting will be during the FIPAC meeting.

FLORIDA DISTRACTED DRIVING COALITION

- Florida's recent law, 316.305, F.S., prohibiting texting while driving went into effect October 1, 2013.
- The purpose of the Coalition is to increase awareness and education within the population of Florida on the dangers of driving distracted.
- The Coalition is focusing on major employers within Florida to survey and then follow-up with letters encouraging development of employee policies prohibiting distracted driving.
- For more information contact Mary Crew at Mary.Crew@flhealth.gov or 850.245.4982 or www.flhsmv.gov/fhp/DistractedDriving.

FLORIDA BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has established a standing statewide "Partnership Council" on bicycle and pedestrian mobility. The Council includes key agency representatives and external stakeholders.

The Council provides guidance to FDOT and its partner agencies on policy matters affecting the bicycle and pedestrian transportation needs of the State of Florida. Leilani Gruener serves as the Department of Health's representative on this council.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2014, in Tallahassee, Florida. Additional information on the council is available at: www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/policy/bikeped/.

FLORIDA PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY COALITION

Florida's Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Coalition was formed to prioritize and implement the strategies identified in the Department of Transportation's Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategic Safety Plan. This diverse group represents many agencies and organizations that have a vested interest in pedestrian and bicycle safety in Florida. The Injury Prevention Program participates as a member of this coalition.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 27–28, 2014, in Tampa, Florida. Additional information on the coalition is available at: <http://www.alerttodayflorida.com/>.

For more information contact Leilani Gruener at leilani.gruener@flhealth.gov or 850.245.4440, ext. 2466

FLORIDA TEEN SAFE DRIVING COALITION

The Injury Prevention Program is a member of the Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition (FTSDC), which meets quarterly. The coalition last met on December 2 to plan the summer Teen Leadership Academy.

For more information contact Mary Crew at mary.crew@flhealth.gov or 850.245.4982 or visit <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/safety/2A-Programs/Teen-Drivers.shtm> or www.FloridaSADD.org.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY COALITION

The Bureau of Emergency Medical Oversight, a member of the Motorcycle Safety Coalition, aids in the implementation of Florida's Motorcycle Strategic Safety Plan,

<http://www.ridesmartflorida.com/images/floridamotorcyclestrategicsafetyplanfinal.pdf>, which is designed to provide a comprehensive strategy to address motorcycle safety issues by identifying goals, strategies, action steps, and performance measures for key program areas. <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/safety/2A-Programs/Motorcycle-Safety.shtm>

OLDER ADULT FALLS PREVENTION COALITION

Falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency room visits for Florida's older adult population.

The Coalition seeks to take the next step in statewide evidence-based and best practice interventions by acquiring data on local intervention activities and pretest and posttest data. The 2013–2014 IPP mini-grant program for older adult falls prevention focuses on this goal. For this grant cycle, six organizations were awarded funding for Older Adult Falls Prevention activities for a total amount of \$30,000. The Coalition is also working with volunteer intervention providers to collect evaluation data.

Additionally, the Coalition seeks to expand its educational tools and resources to reach a variety of stakeholder audiences, including physical therapists, nurses; emergency medical services providers, and other groups.

The Coalition will also continue to improve its annual educational and awareness opportunities, including the month surrounding National Falls Prevention Awareness Day, which will be recognized on September 23, 2014. For more information contact Reikan Lin at Reikan.Lin@flhealth.gov or 850.245.4440, ext. 2736.

SAFE KIDS FLORIDA

Safe Kids Florida is a member of Safe Kids Worldwide. This is a worldwide network of organizations working to prevent unintentional childhood injury, the leading cause of death and disability for children ages 1 to 19.

Safe Kids Florida consists of eleven local coalitions covering Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lafayette, Levy, Suwannee, and Union counties; Broward; Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns; Dade; Hillsborough; Collier and Lee; Orange; Palm Beach; Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Manatee and Sarasota; Flagler and Volusia; and Seminole counties; and six chapters covering Bay; Lake and Sumter; Leon; Marion; Okaloosa and Santa Rosa; and Osceola counties.

Regularly scheduled coordinator conference calls occur on the first Tuesday of each month at 10 AM. Regularly scheduled Safe Kids Advisory Board conference calls occur on the first Thursday of each month at 10 AM. For more information contact Mary Crew at Mary.Crew@flhealth.gov or 850.245.4982.

SAFE MOBILITY FOR LIFE COALITION

The Injury Prevention Program is a member of the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Safe Mobility for Life Coalition. The Coalition meets quarterly. Mary Crew is the liaison on this coalition.

The Safe Mobility for Life Coalition's mission is to improve the safety, access and mobility of Florida's aging road users by developing a comprehensive strategic plan to reduce injuries and crashes among this vulnerable population.

For additional information on the Safe Mobility for Life Coalition, please visit <http://www.safeandmobileseniors.org> and <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/safety/2A-Programs/Aging-Road-Users.shtm>.

WATERPROOFFL CHILD DROWNING PREVENTION CAMPAIGN **GEARING UP FOR SUMMER 2014**

WaterproofFL “Pool Safety is Everyone’s Responsibility”



Child Drowning Prevention Activities for the Department will be coordinated through the WaterproofFL campaign again in the Spring and Summer of 2014. Door alarms, brochures, posters, and Water Watcher tags will be provided throughout the state to County Health Departments (CHDs), Safe Kids organizations, and other child-oriented partners as part of the WaterproofFL campaign.

WaterproofFL is Florida’s first statewide pool safety and child drowning prevention campaign, starting in April 2011 with the theme, “Pool Safety is Everyone’s Responsibility,” and emphasizing a multi-faceted approach to child drowning prevention through Layers of Protection. The Layers of Protection are: supervision, barriers, and emergency preparedness. This theme will continue this summer and be expanded to include the need for swim lessons for children ages 5-12.

A toll free number (877.362.5033), and a website, www.WaterproofFL.com, are resources that provide information and tools for parents, caregivers, pool owners, and others on the need for child water safety and teaching the Layers of Protection necessary to protect Florida’s children from drowning.

Seven child drowning prevention Mini-Grants were provided statewide to start up later in the Spring. Four of the recipients were CHDs, two YMCAs, and a children’s hospital. The Mini-Grants provide small sums of money to eligible community agencies to fill local child drowning prevention needs, such as provision of swim lessons to disadvantaged children, mass media public awareness activities, and education presentations to parents. For more information, contact Elizabeth White at Elizabeth.White@flhealth.gov or 850.245.4440, extension 2709.